

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-02

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R 232009Z MAY 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

INFO CINCPAC

UNCLAS STATE 104967

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 104967 ACTION NEW DELHI BONN
COLOMBO DACCA GENEVA ISLAMABAD KABUL LONDON MOSCOW
KATHMANDU PARIS PEKING ROME TEHRAN TEL AVIV TOKYO
USUN NEW YORK VIENNA 20 MAY. QUOTE

UNCLAS STATE 104967

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IN

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

VIENNA FOR IAEA

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING IS PARTIAL
EXCERPT FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING MAY 20,
1974:

QUOTE: Q. A QUESTION ON THE NUCLEAR DEVICE EXPLOSION IN
INDIA: CAN YOU TELL US WHETHER OR NOT THE MATERIAL USED IN
THAT EXPLOSION WAS ENRICHED FISSIONABLE MATERIAL RESULTING
FROM U.S.-SUPPLIED URANIUM "FOR PEACEFUL REACTORS" IN INDIA?

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A. THAT'S A LITTLE TOO TECHNICAL FOR ME. I COULDN'T

ANSWER THAT.

Q. WELL DID IT ORIGINATE IN THE UNITED STATES, THE MATERIAL USED IN THAT?

A. I REALLY THINK YOU WOULD BE BETTER REWARDED BY PURSUING THIS WITH AEC OR DEFENSE, OR SOMEONE WHO HAS TECHNICAL COMPETENCE TO ADDRESS THAT.

Q. CERTAINLY YOU HAVE SOME COMMENT ON THAT FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF FOREIGN POLICY, DON'T YOU?

A. WELL, THE UNITED STATES HAS ALWAYS BEEN AGAINST NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION FOR THE ADVERSE IMPACT IT WILL HAVE ON WORLD STABILITY, THAT REMAINS OUR POSITION.

Q. DID YOU TELL THEM THAT YOU DON'T LIKE IT?

A. BEYOND THIS STATEMENT OF OUR GENERAL POLICY, I WOULDN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO ADD.

Q. WAS THE UNITED STATES ADVISED PRIOR TO THE SETTING OFF OF THIS DEVICE, THAT IT WAS ABOUT TO BE SET OFF?

A. NO.

Q. COULD YOU COMMENT ON THE EFFECTS ON THE PRESENT SOVIET-AMERICAN SALT NEGOTIATIONS? WILL THIS HAVE ANY EFFECT ON THE EFFORTS TO LIMIT UNDERGROUND TESTING?

AND, DO YOU SEE ANY CONNECTION BETWEEN PROSPECT OF A LIMITATION OF THAT KIND AND THIS TEST, WHICH HAS TAKEN PLACE TWO OR THREE WEEKS BEFORE THE NEXT SUMMIT MEETING?

A. I WOULD FIND IT VERY HARD TO SPECULATE ON ANY OF THOSE QUESTIONS. END QUOTE. RUSH UNQUOTE RUSH

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